Prime Minister's Office have not even acknowledged these registered letters;

(c) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(d) what positive steps, on the lines of opening a special cell in Prime Minister's Office, are proposed to be taken in dealing with such letters?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) So far, 2103 letters have been received from the general public and public servants, including MPs' and MLAs', from Himachal Pradesh, but it is not possible at this stage to determine as to how many of them were registered letters.

(b) and (c) Prime Minister's Office attempts to acknowledge all the letters/petitions received from general public which have tangible suggestions grievances and forward them to the concerned authorities for appropriate action. Out of the above, 449 letters were acknowledged and the rest were forwarded to the concerned authorities for appropriate action. Letters of purely ephmoral nature were filed. Letters from MPs/VIPs are acknowledged by the Prime Minister himself and monitored with the concerned authorities for taking appropriate action and sending a suitable reply to the MPs/VIP concerned. Action on such letters are pursued by the Monitoring Cell functioning in the Prime Minister's Office.

(d) In addition to Monitoring Cell for MPs/VIP letters, there are already four sections with adequate staff in Prime Minister's Office, exclusively to deal with letters from general public, public servants, etc.

Allocation of paper to the States

3038. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the allocation of paper to the different States, State-wise ,during the last three years and how much has been actually supplied to each State; and

(b) what are the reasons for not supplying enough paper to Rajasthan to enable it to supply text books and exercise books for the cause of education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

(b) The supply of concessional paper by Hindustan Paper Corporation to the education sector in the States/UTs including the State of Rajasthan has been behind schedule due to certain difficulties faced by the Corporation such as spurt in the cost of production and natural calamities. Government of India have in the meanwhile, allowed some increase in the level of subsidy to meet the price increase. Department of Education has also issued necessary instructions to the Corporation to put in all possible efforts to effect supplies as per allotments made by the Department of Education.

Effects of radiation from atomic power plant at Rawatbhata in Rajasthan

3039. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Sanghamitra Desai Agadekar, Director of Sampoorna Krantividyalaya, Surat (Gujarat) has demanded an enquiry into the eeffcts of radiation from the atomic power plant at Rawatbhata, near Kota, in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the effects of radiation due to Rawatbhata project;

(d) what are the names of villages in Rajasthan affected due to radiation by the said Project;

(e) the number of times when the Rawatbhata pant has been closed since its setting up of with the reasons therefor; and

(f) whether it is a fact that developed countries have decided not to put up any more atomic power plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) and (b) A Press Report relating to the demand for enquiry into the effects of radiation from Atomic Power Plant at Rawatbhata in Rajasthan purported to have been made by Dr. Sanghamitra Desai Agadekar, Director of Sampoorna Kranti Vidyalaya, Surat (Gujarat) has come to the notice of the Government.

(c) The operational releases from Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS) over the past several years have been well within the permissible limits so as not to cause any perceivable health effects to population in the area around the plant. The radiation dose at the exclusion zone boundary (1.6 kms) from Rajesthan Atomic Power Station due to release of radioactive materials is negligible.

(d) No villages in Rajasthan are affected due to radiation by the said project in view of (c) above.

(e) RAPS-1 had 215 unplanned and 24 planned outages. RAPS-2 had 106 unplanned and 25 planned outages. These relate to the period from the beginning of commercial operation i.e. 16-12-1973 for RAPS-1 and 01.04.1981 for RPS-2 to end of July, 1990. The planned outages were for preventive and predictive maintenance of the various systems of the plant. The unplanned outages were due to problems relating to equipment and components including instability of the grid to which these two units are connected. The units were brought back on line as soon as the cause of such outages were removed.

(f) In some countries there has been slowing down of nuclear power programme for various reasons including that of low demand for additional power and pressures relates to environmental and safety considerations. In certain countries like France, nuclear power contributes almost 80 per cent of the electricity generation. More stations are being added there in order to export electricity. Government has a responsibility to meet energy needs of the country of various categories of the population and for different sector of economic development. Government is of the view that nuclear energy can play an important role in this regard. While pursuing this objective Government will also see to it that all that is necessary is done to ensure safety and avoidance of hazards that have been of public concern.

Complaints against an officer posted in Education and Culture Wing of the Indian Embassy, Washington

3040. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have some complaints from doctors and scientists about the behaviour of Dr. Sartaj S. Mathur who is posted in the Education and Cultural wing of the Indian Embassy in Washington;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVEOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) No No such complaint against the officer has been received in the Ministry.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Parties/Receptions held in National Museum

3041. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be